(c) As per existing policy, oil companies advertise the locations included in the approved Marketing Plans under different reserved categories in two newspapers, one in English daily and one in vernacular daily, and invite applications from the candidates meeting the eligibility criteria relating to nationality, age, educational qualification, residence, income, multiple dealership norms, etc. Selection of the eligible candidates is made by the duly constituted Dealer Selection Boards. Reservation for different categories have been provided as under.

Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes (SC/ST)	-25%
Physically Handicapped Persons (PH)	-5%
Paramilitary/Police/Govt. Personnel(PMP)	-8%
Defence Personnel (DC)	-8%
Freedom Fighters (FF)	-2%
Outstanding Sportspersons (OSP)	-2%
Open (O)	-50%

Also, 33% of the dealerships/ distributorships in all the categories mentioned above are reserved for Women belonging to that category. Other things being equal Unmarried women above 40 years of age without earning parents and Widows are given priority over others.

राजस्थान में डीजल / पेट्रोल पम्प

4092. श्री ओंकार सिंह लखावत: क्या पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) वर्ष 1998-99 में राजस्थान में कितने नए डीजल/पेट्रोल पम्प खोले जाने का प्रस्ताव है और उनका जिला-वार ब्यौरा क्या है,

(ख) इस समय राजस्थान में कितनी गैस एजेंसियां काम कर रही हैं और ये कितने नगरों में अवस्थित है; और

(ग) वर्ष 1998-99 में राजस्थान में रसोई गैस वितरण हेतु कितनी गैस एजेंसियां खोली जाएंगी और उनका जिला-वार ब्यौरा क्या है?

पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री संतोष कुमार गंगवार): (क) और (ग) पिछली विपणन योजनाओं से लंबित स्थानों के अलावा राजस्थान के लिए 1996—98 की खुदरा बिक्री केन्द्र और एल पी जी विपणन योजनाओं में 29 खुदरा बिक्री केन्द्र डीलरशिपों और 94 एल पी जी डिस्ट्रीब्यूटरशिपों को शामिल कर लिया गया है। 1998-99 में खोली जाने वाली डीलरशिप/डिस्ट्रीब्यूटरशिपों की वास्तविक संख्या डीलर चयन बोर्ड (राजस्थान) द्वारा आयोजित साक्षात्कारों की संख्या, भूमि की उपलब्धता आदि जैसे विभिन्न घटकों पर निर्भर होगी। विज्ञापन की तारीख से डीलरशिप/डिस्ट्रीब्यूटरशिप को चालू करने में आमतौर पर लगभग 1-2 वर्ष का समय लगता है।

(ख) 1.4.1998 की स्थिति के अनुसार राजस्थान में 226 एल पी जी डिस्ट्रीब्यूटरशिपें प्रचालनरत थीं।

Reliance and Essar Group Refineries

4093. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the tentative dates of commissioning of Refineries of Reliance and Essar Group; and

(b) whether Government or Oil Selection Board (OSB) would select their dealers or they would market their products themselves?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) M/s. Reliance Industries Ltd. was initially granted LOI for a period of 3 years on 03.06.92 for setting up of 9 MMTPA Refinery which was amended on 30th September, 1994 for increase in capacity to 15 MMTPA. The validity of the LOI has been extended for a period of 3 years upto June, 1998. M/s. Essar Investment Ltd. was initially granted LOI for a period of 3 years for setting up a 9 MMTPA Refinery on 06.01.93. The LOI has been extended for a period of 3 years up to January, 1999.

These companies have reported that these refineries are likely to be commissioned in 1999.

(b) The Government in November, 1997, had decided to dismantle Administered Pricing Mechanism in the Petroleum Sector in phases starting from 1998-99. During the transition period, five products, viz., MS, HSD, SKO, LPG and ATF, will be controlled products. These five products from all private sector and joint venture as well as public sector refineries

will be marketed during the transition period by the National Oil Companies only to the extent the same are required for domestic consumption. However, when the transition period is over in 2002-03, all private sector/ joint venture refineries with the minimum investment of Rs. 2,000 crore can market all their products including these five products. The private companies are free to market decontrolled products and other decanalised products through their own dealer network and at prices determined by them.

Commission of RPO Dealers

4094. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the formula for the increase in Commission of RPO dealers to compensate the increase in wages and salaries etc.;

(b) how much per kilo litre increase in MS and HSD Commission is given to RPO dealers with every increase of 100 points in AICPI; and

(c) how much increase in commission on MS and HSD has been given to the RPO dealers since 1993-94, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) and (b) The current formula for increasing the Dealer's Commission for MS & HSD to compensate the increase in wages and salaries is as under:

$$\text{Revised Commission} = \text{Existing Commission} \times \frac{(1+F \times \text{New AICPI} - \text{old AICPI})}{\text{Old AICPI}}$$

F denotes the factor which is 0.05

The increase in commission of MS and HSD for increase in every 100 points of AICPI would depend both on the existing commission and the old AICPI.

(c) The details of increase in Commission of MS & HS dealers since 1993-94 are given in the Annexure

[*See* Appendix 184, Annexure No. 100]

LPG Agencies in Uttar Pradesh

4095. SHRI RAM NATH KOVID: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the acute fuel shortage rural areas, particularly in Uttar Pradesh, due to policy of conservation of forests and efforts to discourage use of wood;

(b) whether Government propose to open more agencies for supply of LPG in rural areas of the State; and

(c) if so, the number of such agencies proposed to be opened during the current year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) and (b) in order to meet the fuel requirement of rural and semi-rural areas, it was decided to extend the LPG facility in these areas from the LPG Marketing Plan 1996—98 onwards. Accordingly 318 distributorships in urban/rural areas and 22 in rural areas have been included in the LPG Marketing Plan 1996-98 for Uttar Pradesh.

(c) Actual number of distributorships to be opened in current year will depend on various factors such as number of interviews for LPG distributorship conducted by the concerned Dealer Selection Boards, availability of land etc. It generally takes about 1-2 years for commissioning of a LPG distributorship from the date of advertisement.

Unleaded Petrol Outlets in Uttar Pradesh

4096. SHRI RAM NATH KOVIND: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of outlets of unleaded petrol of different oil companies at present functioning in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) whether Government propose to open more such outlets in the State during the current year; and

(c) if so, the places where these are proposed to be opended?